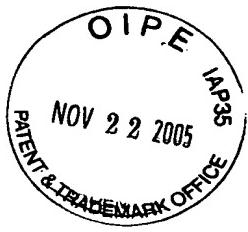


Tfw



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Toshio FURUKAWA

Group Art Unit: 2859

Application No.: 10/808,373

Examiner: Richard Smith

Filed: March 25, 2004

Docket No.: 119235

For: IMAGE FORMING DEVICE

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the August 24, 2005 Office Action, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 20, 22 and 23 as well as the indication that claims 5-11 contain allowable subject matter. For at least the reasons discussed below, Applicant submits that all pending claims are allowable.

Claims 1-4, 12, 17-19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,731,889 to Nakayama; claims 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Nakayama in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,278,857 to Monji et al. (Monji); and claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Nakayama in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0136570 to Yamanaka et al. (Yamanaka). The rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Page 2 of the Office Action generally states that col. 11, lines 19-37 of Nakayama discloses an abnormal data excluding unit. Applicant respectfully disagrees. The identified